



**City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
February 27, 2018**

ITEM TITLE:

Coral Gables Arts Advisory Panel Meeting of January 24, 2018.

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

DEVELOPER AIPP PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR GABLES STATION:

Ms. Cathers gave a brief introduction of the team presenting the art in public places concepts for the Gables Station mixed-use development project. She stated that the developer is proposing to work with two artists: Arturo Berned and Blessing Hancock. Arturo Berned, she stated, is being presented for consideration as a pre-qualified artist and Blessing Hancock is on the pre-qualified artist list.

Arturo Berned

Mr. Navarro introduced the first concept by artist Arturo Berned. He stated that this work would be placed at the southwest corner of the property as an important gateway at the intersection of Grand Avenue and South Dixie Highway, next to the linear park, by an open plaza, and where people are biking and walking. Mr. Navarro said the intent is to create a powerful sculpture people will see, further stating that this artist was selected because of his experience with large-scale outdoor sculptures and his upcoming distinction in the arts community. Mr. Navarro provided details on recent acquisitions of the artist's work worldwide. He stated they would like to obtain one of Berned's pieces to create a sense of space and visual connection between the park and busy intersection. The proposed piece, he said, will be similar to previous work, fabricated in steel, approximately eight (8) to eleven (11) feet in width and height, and installed flush to the ground with up-lighting.

Blessing Hancock

The development team then discussed the selection of pre-qualified artist Blessing Hancock and her proposed concept. They provided background on the artist and her unique experience working with communities and neighborhoods.

Dr. Deupi made a motion to include Arturo Berned as a pre-qualified artist. Ms. Tshumy seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Carlos Cruz-Diez Crosswalk

Ms. Cathers shared a proposed concept to make the Carlos Cruz-Diez crosswalks in front of City Hall permanent. She presented a quote from the artist of \$160,000 for the design. She also presented a rough estimate for the installation and maintenance, based on the previous temporary installation; she added, the City has not yet received an estimate from the artist team or representative. Staff recommended that to keep the crosswalks looking their best, the design should be painted four times (4x) per year, making the maintenance budget of the piece approximately \$60,000 per year (\$15,000 per painting). The maintenance, Ms. Spain stated, includes closing the streets, police, lights, and public works crew.

Mr. Kolasiński made a motion not to approve the expenditure for the acquisition of the Cruz-Diez crosswalks. Ms. Tschumy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Panel was informed that one place remains vacant on the Arts Advisory Panel and two names have been submitted. Ms. Cathers asked that any additional nominations be forwarded to her attention for the Cultural Development Board to consider at their next meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

The Panel discussed touring the Miracle Mile Streetscape and agreed to meet outside of a regular Panel meeting to walk and experience the Mile. Staff will forward possible days for the Panel to meet and will arrange a time when most Panel members can attend.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

There were no items from the secretary.

ATTACHMENT(S):1. Arts Advisory Panel meeting of January 24, 2018.